

Appl. No. 10/680,887  
Response dated February 11, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of 08/13/2004  
ED 535013405 US

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

a surface configured to enclose a first volume having an upper opening  
and a lower opening, wherein the surface is removably attachable to a court net;  
and

a frame coupled with the surface, wherein the frame is removably  
attachable to the court net, such that an object can be aimed by a player to enter  
the upper opening and pass through the lower opening, wherein the surface is  
made out of a material selected from the group consisting of flexible net material,  
plastic film and cloth~~The apparatus of claim 9, wherein a cup area is formed in~~  
the surface near the lower opening.

Claim 13 (canceled)

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Claim 14 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

a surface configured to enclose a first volume having an upper opening  
and a lower opening, wherein the surface is removably attachable to a court net;  
and

a frame coupled with the surface, wherein the frame is removably  
attachable to the court net, such that an object can be aimed by a player to enter  
the upper opening and pass through the lower opening wherein a cross-sectional  
area of the upper opening is adjustable and~~The apparatus of claim 13, wherein~~  
the cross-sectional area of the upper opening can be adjusted by changing a  
length of the frame.

Claim 15 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

a surface configured to enclose a first volume having an upper opening  
and a lower opening, wherein the surface is removably attachable to a court net;  
and

a frame coupled with the surface, wherein the frame is removably  
attachable to the court net, such that an object can be aimed by a player to enter  
the upper opening and pass through the lower opening wherein a cross-sectional  
area of the upper opening is adjustable and~~The apparatus of claim 13, wherein~~  
the cross-sectional area of the upper opening can be adjusted by gathering a  
part of the surface.

Claims 16-33 (canceled)

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Claim 34 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:  
a surface configured to enclose a first volume having an adjustable upper opening and having a lower opening, wherein the surface is removably attachable to a court net; and  
a frame coupled with the surface, wherein the frame is removably attachable to the court net, such that a ball can be aimed by a player to enter the upper opening and pass through the lower opening and~~The apparatus of claim 32, wherein a cup area is formed in the surface near the lower opening.~~

Claim 35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (new): The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the court net is a volleyball net.

Claim 37 (new): The apparatus of claim 34, wherein an edge of the upper opening is colored differently from the rest of the surface.

Claim 38 (new): The apparatus of claim 34, further comprising:  
a sensor configured to detect the presence of the ball proximate to the lower opening; and  
an alarm responsive to the sensor, such that when the ball is proximate to the lower opening the alarm emits a signal observable to a human.

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Claim 39 (new): The apparatus of claim 34, the frame further comprising:  
a plurality of members flexibly coupled together, to allow the surface to  
collapse, such that the apparatus can occupy a second volume when collapsed  
and the second volume is smaller than the first volume.

Claim 40 (new): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the court net is a  
volleyball net.

Claim 41 (new): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the object is a ball.

Claim 42 (new): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the object is a  
shuttlecock.

Claim 43 (new): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein an edge of the upper  
opening is a color that is different from the rest of the surface.

Claim 44 (new): The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the color of the upper  
opening is selected from the group consisting of black, red, orange, a fluorescent  
color and yellow.

Claim 45 (new): The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the court net is a  
volleyball net.

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Claim 46 (new): The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the object is a ball.

Claim 47 (new): The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the object is a shuttlecock.

Claim 48 (new): The apparatus of claim 14, wherein an edge of the upper opening is a color that is different from the rest of the surface.

Claim 49 (new): The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the color of the upper opening is selected from the group consisting of black, red, orange, a fluorescent color and yellow.

Claim 50 (new): The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:  
a signal means in communication with the lower opening configured to generate a signal observable to the player when the object is proximate to the lower opening.

Claim 51 (new): The apparatus of claim 50, wherein the signal is an audio signal.

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Claim 52 (new): The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the audio signal is selected from the group consisting of a bell sound, a buzzer sound and a whistle sound.

Claim 53 (new): The apparatus of claim 50, wherein the signal is a visual signal.

Claim 54 (new): The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the visual signal is selected from the group consisting of a light, a blinking light, an illuminated number and an illuminated letter.

Claim 55 (new): The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:  
a sensor configured to detect the presence of the object proximate to the lower opening, and  
an alarm responsive to the sensor, such that when the object is proximate to the lower opening the alarm emits a signal observable to the player.

Claim 56 (new): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the court net is a volleyball net.

Claim 57 (new): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the object is a ball.

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Claim 58 (new): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the object is a shuttlecock.

Claim 59 (new): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein an edge of the upper opening is a color that is different from the rest of the surface.

Claim 60 (new): The apparatus of claim 59, wherein the color of the upper opening is selected from the group consisting of black, red, orange, a fluorescent color and yellow.

Claim 61 (new): The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:  
a signal means in communication with the lower opening configured to generate a signal observable to the player when the object is proximate to the lower opening.

Claim 62 (new): The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the signal is an audio signal.

Claim 63 (new): The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the audio signal is selected from the group consisting of a bell sound, a buzzer sound and a whistle sound.

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Claim 64 (new): The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the signal is a visual signal.

Claim 65 (new): The apparatus of claim 64, wherein the visual signal is selected from the group consisting of a light, a blinking light, an illuminated number and an illuminated letter.

Claim 66 (new): The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:  
a sensor configured to detect the presence of the object proximate to the lower opening, and  
an alarm responsive to the sensor, such that when the object is proximate to the lower opening the alarm emits a signal observable to the player.